

Collins, Charlotte

From: Brownlow, Kellie
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 8:05 AM
To: Collins, Charlotte
Subject: Fwd: SunTrust Parking questions

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Brownlow, Kellie" <Kellie.Brownlow@cobbcounty.org>
Date: June 22, 2016 at 4:48:12 PM EDT
To: "Klepal, Dan (CMG-Atlanta)" <Dan.Klepal@ajc.com>
Subject: RE: SunTrust Parking questions

Dan,

Your question is one of legal interpretation and should be directed to the county attorney's office.

What I can do is discuss why one of the five the commissioners voted the same way as the other four. I have done this. Staff was tasked with finding a plan to ensure pedestrian safety and traffic flow. They studied other similar situations and this was the proposal they came up with.

That said, you seemed to have skipped the part of the ordinance that puts your question into context.

Sec. 78-406.6. Offenses.

(a) It shall be unlawful to:

- (1) Submit false documents, or otherwise makes false statements of a material fact on an application for any license submitted under this division;
- (2) Provide special event parking for any vehicle during a special event in violation of this division;
- (3) Each vehicle charged a fee for parking on a parking area during a special event in violation of this division constituted a separate offense; and/or
- (4) Violate any other provision of this division.

(b) In the prosecution of an offense under this division, it is presumed that:

- (1) The property owner, applicant for the accessory special event parking license, and the responsible person named on the application for the operation of the special event parking area, are jointly and severally responsible for parking violations under this division and for compliance with this division in the operation of the accessory special event parking area; and
- (2) All vehicles parked on property during a special event have been charged a fee for parking during the special event.

Kellie

From: Klepal, Dan (CMG-Atlanta) [<mailto:Dan.Klepal@ajc.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2016 3:10 PM
To: Brownlow, Kellie

Cc: Lee, Tim

Subject: RE: SunTrust Parking questions

Kellie;

Thank you for this, but my questions were directed to the chairman. And your comments do not answer them.

I will ask those three of Chairman Lee again, with one additional related to the following provision in the ordinance:

In the prosecution of an offense under this division, it is presumed that:

(1) ... ; and

(2) All vehicles parked on property during a special event have been charged a fee for parking during the special event.

Tim, what is your understanding of this provision in the ordinance?

Specifically, does it mean that cars in unpermitted lots within the half-mile radius cannot have cars in them during Braves games, even if those lots are connected to shopping centers during business hours or to office buildings where people may be working?

Do you think that provision is fair?

Thank you for answering my questions.

DK

From: Brownlow, Kellie [<mailto:Kellie.Brownlow@cobbcounty.org>]

Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2016 7:39 PM

To: Klepal, Dan (CMG-Atlanta) <Dan.Klepal@ajc.com>

Subject: RE: SunTrust Parking questions

Dan,

The Board had 6 weeks to review the proposed code amendments. For your information, attached are Commissioner comments and recommended changes to the code. More than 20 comments/changes were submitted with only one comment regarding the special event parking ordinance.

Additionally, over the course of 3 public hearings, more than 30 residents provided input on various components of the proposed amendments.

Special event parking ordinances are common in local government. Cobb County professional staff regularly makes recommendations to the Board based on best practices and industry standards.

Kellie

Kellie Brownlow

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From: Klepal, Dan (CMG-Atlanta) [<mailto:Dan.Klepal@ajc.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2016 2:20 PM
To: Brownlow, Kellie
Cc: Lee, Tim
Subject: RE: SunTrust Parking questions

Kellie:

Thanks for this, but a couple of questions went unanswered. In order of importance:

- While there were three public hearings on the batch of new or revised ordinances, **there was no sustentative discussion among commissioners. Why**, considering that the ordinance impacts so many people – the Braves, property owners and fans?
- County staff says they researched best practices, but was unable to provide any source material from their research. Are you satisfied that the research was thorough and complete?
- Do you think this ordinance was necessary because of the MOU?

And I would add:

- Did you ask for or review the best practices county staff says it reviewed. Did you ask for any backup material. Can you direct staff to provide it to me?

Thank you,

DK

From: Brownlow, Kellie [<mailto:Kellie.Brownlow@cobbcounty.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2016 2:37 PM
To: Klepal, Dan (CMG-Atlanta) <Dan.Klepal@ajc.com>
Subject: RE: SunTrust Parking questions

Dan

See below from Chairman Lee in response to your questions:

"The county has to provide for pedestrian safety and traffic flow in a high density area. County staff put a lot of time and effort into finding workable solutions and they studied best practices. When they presented a plan, all five commissioners agreed this was the best solution to keep tens of thousands of people and thousands of vehicles moving. I certainly have no concerns about property owners selling parking. Outside the radius they can apply to offer parking, and property owners inside the radius can appeal to do the same. We will work with them so long as it doesn't pose a threat to pedestrian safety or traffic flow."

Thank you.

Kellie

Kellie Brownlow
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From: Klepal, Dan (CMG-Atlanta) [<mailto:Dan.Klepal@ajc.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2016 10:36 AM
To: Brownlow, Kellie
Cc: Lee, Tim
Subject: SunTrust Parking questions

Tim:

I am working on a story about the special event parking ordinance. Many property owners within the half-mile radius around SunTrust Park were unaware of the restrictions. I wanted to ask you why this issue wasn't debated among the commission. It was passed with many other ordinances. And while there were three public hearings on the batch of new or revised ordinances, there was no substantive discussion among commissioners. Why, considering that the ordinance impacts so many people – the Braves, property owners and fans?

Why are you in favor of the ordinance.

I know that staff says the ordinance will help protect public safety, but do you think it will also help protect a Braves revenue stream – namely parking?

Wouldn't offering more parking lots to fans also help improve public safety by getting cars off the roadways more quickly?

County staff says they researched best practices, but was unable to provide any source material from their research. Are you satisfied that the research was thorough and complete?

Do you think this ordinance was necessary because of the MOU?

Thanks for answering my questions!

Dan Klepal
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